



U.S. Immigration  
and Customs  
Enforcement

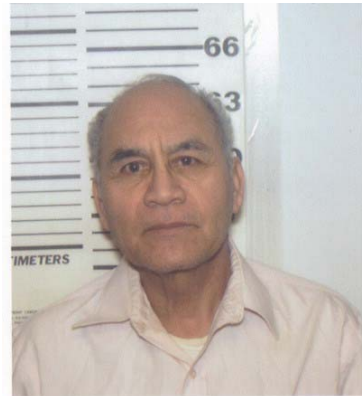
June 8, 2006

# News Release

## **Willmar man deported following conviction for molesting 6-year-old**

BLOOMINGTON, Minn. — U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detention and removal officers deported a Willmar man yesterday who was convicted of sexually molesting a six-year-old girl.

Carlos Medina-Moreno, 59, a citizen of Mexico, was flown from the Twin Cities to the U.S.-Mexico border yesterday afternoon along with 56 other illegal aliens. Of the 57 deported, 27 had criminal convictions for such crimes as: assault, carrying a concealed weapon, aggravated assault on a police officer, burglary, weapons offenses, sexual assault, forgery, domestic assault, drunk driving, drug offenses, larceny, fraud, forgery, receiving stolen property and cruelty toward a spouse.



Willmar Police officers arrested Medina-Moreno August 27, 2005, following an investigation by the police and Kandiyohi County Family Services. He was originally charged in Kandiyohi County District Court with one count each of first-degree criminal sexual conduct and second-degree criminal sexual conduct for molesting the girl. Medina-Moreno pleaded guilty to second-degree criminal sexual conduct Feb. 6, 2006. He was sentenced to 21 months in prison, which was stayed, was placed on probation for 25 years, and was required to register as a predatory offender. He served 193 days in prison and was turned over to ICE March 29.

Medina-Moreno was also convicted of domestic assault in Kandiyohi District Court in 2001 and was sentenced to 90 days in prison.

“A child’s innocence was destroyed by this criminal,” said Special Agent in Charge Mark Cangemi of the ICE office in Bloomington. “We will not tolerate the presence of those who prey on children. They will be sought out, arrested and deported.” Cangemi oversees the enforcement of immigration and customs laws in a five-state area that includes Minnesota.

Medina-Moreno had entered the United States in 1969 as a legal permanent resident, or “green card” holder. His criminal record resulted in the loss of his legal status, and a federal immigration judge subsequently ordered him deported.

Medina-Moreno’s removal is part of Operation Predator, ICE’s comprehensive initiative to safeguard children from foreign national pedophiles, international sex tourists, Internet child pornographers, and human traffickers. Since Operation Predator was launched in July 2003, ICE agents have arrested more than 7,500 individuals nationwide, including 216 in Minnesota, making it one of the top 10 states for these arrests.

To enhance efforts to protect children, ICE has formed partnerships with several non-governmental organizations, including the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) and World Vision’s child sex tourism prevention project, to provide prevention and deterrence information to the public.

Members of the public wishing to report suspicious activity may contact ICE at 1-866-DHS-2ICE or [Operation.Predator@dhs.gov](mailto:Operation.Predator@dhs.gov). Additionally, NCMEC can be contacted at 1-800-843-5678 or at [www.cybertipline.com](http://www.cybertipline.com). Additional information about the operation is posted at [www.ice.gov](http://www.ice.gov).

# ICE #

*U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of four integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.*